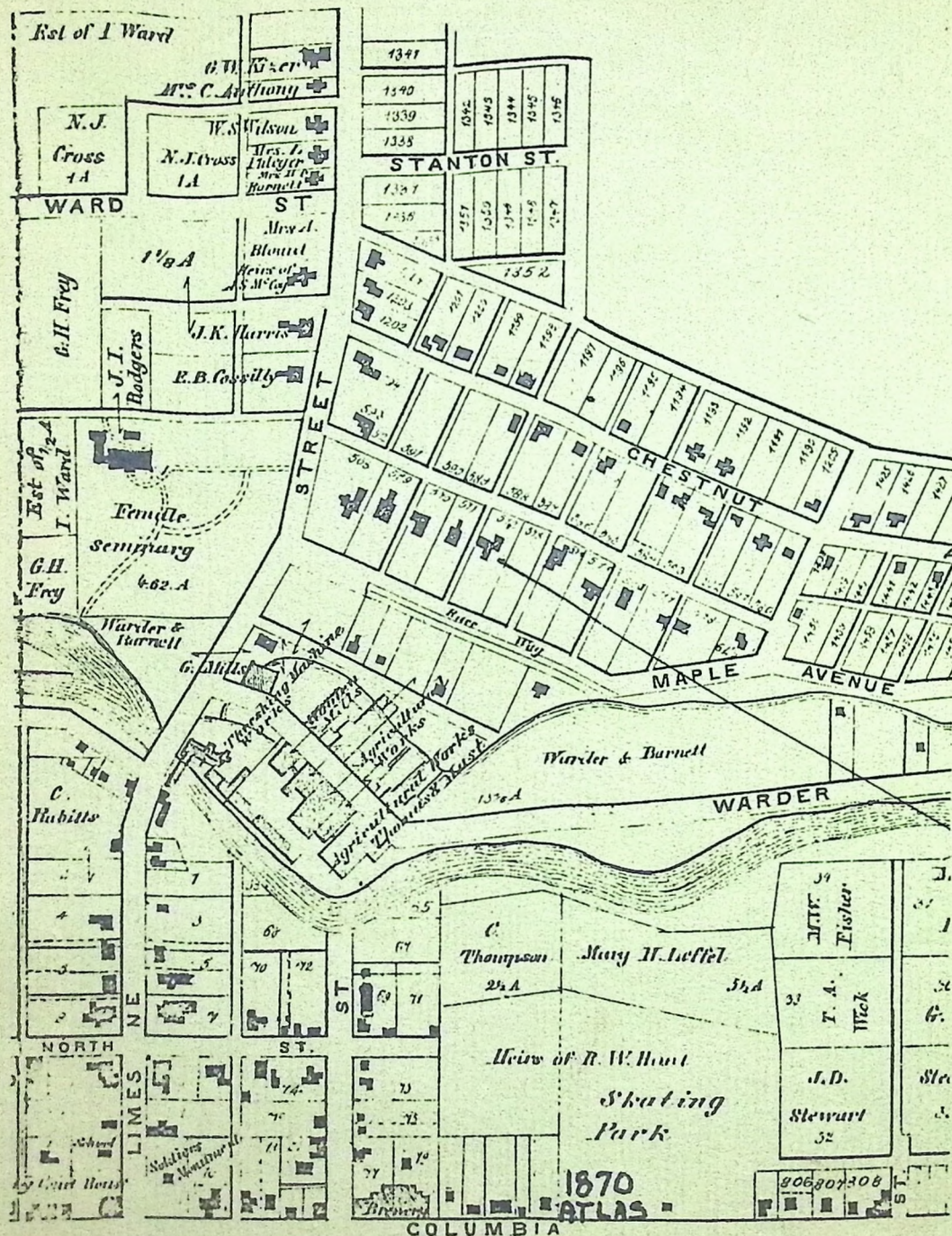




*A Scrapbook
of
Newspaper Articles
on Springfield
History
written by
Herbert K. Skinner*

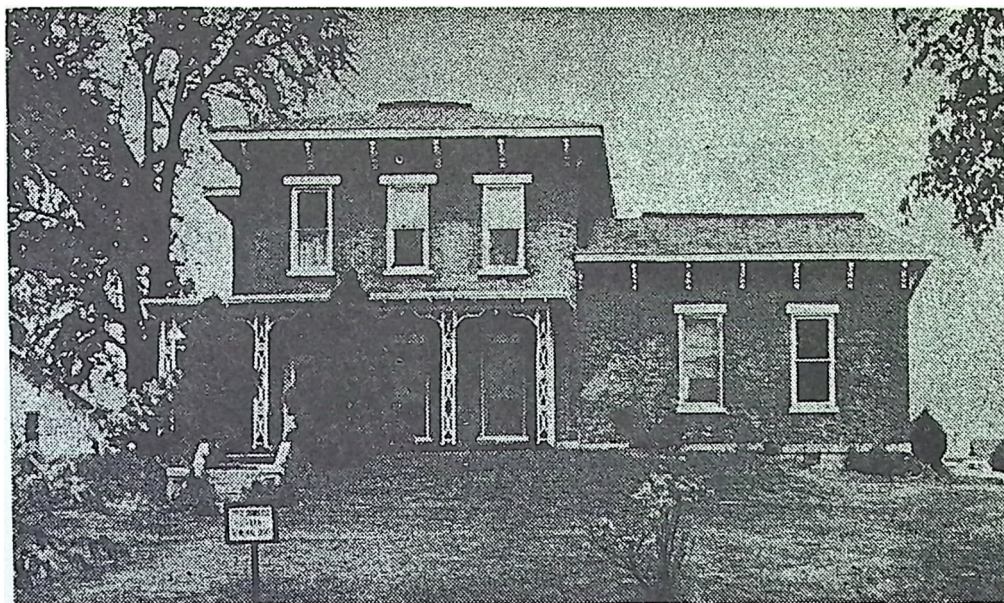
Part Two



Published by The Springfield History Committee, 1972

James Leffel Home

This is the second in a series of Memorial Scrap-books. The selected articles are dedicated to the memory of Herbert K. Skinner (1902-1971), a fellow-member whose devotion to Springfield's past made his writing unique.



Home Of Inventor James Leffel

Early in the 19th Century when Springfield was developing into an industrial center, Mount Vernon av.—then known as Maple av.—was one of the finest sections in the city. The residence shown here was the home of James Leffel, inventor of the turbine pump which made the city famous. Today it is the location of the urban renewal office. Overlooking the city and Buck Creek, Maple av. was considered a posh neighborhood. As industry developed along the banks of the creek, there was fear that the street would decline. Moneyed Springfielders moved to S. Fountain av. and E. High st. The Leffel home is slated for removal if the North Hill No. 2 urban renewal project materializes. 12/20/67 N

First City Market Opened In 1830's

(EDITOR'S NOTE — Clark County is observing its sesquicentennial anniversary. This is one of a number of stories prepared by staff writer Herbert K. Skinner to outline events in the early history of the city and area.)

By HERBERT K. SKINNER

Springfield has had a city market since the late 1830's. The first one was located on the east side of the present Esplanade on the site of the Arcade Hotel. It was

supported by posts and open on on three sides. To the south was a swamp and to the east was Mill Run.

The farmers who brought their goods to market were paid five cents a dozen for eggs and received a "tip and a bit" about 17 cents for butter in prints as well as 6½ cents for a peck of apples. There were not many vegetables sold since most residents had back yard gardens. Tin cans were used to measure smearcase cheese and there were no small market measures. Bread sold at the market was baked in Dutch ovens.

Dr. Benjamin Prince tells of an old account of market business which reported that it would make the modern buyer's mouth water to see the nice cuts of pork, beef or mutton spread out on the counters. The writer told of Granny Icenbarger, who made and sold ginger cakes and spruce beer.

She had a two-story shack on the site of the present First National Bank building and was said to have been the first baker in Springfield. Her cakes and beer were sold wherever people gathered whether it be at her shack or at the market. Granny Icenbarger came to Springfield in 1812 and died in 1839.

In 1848 a better market was completed in Springfield, costing \$7,800, which included a bell and the necessary grading around the building. Martin Cary, the first child born in the village, was the market master who rang the bell to open and close the market. Springfielders came to the market daily to buy supplies for breakfast and meals for the rest of the day. 11/15/67 W

The third city market was opened when the city bldg. was completed in 1890 at a cost of \$250,000. The new municipal building was considered one of the finest office buildings in the state. The ground floor was given over to the city market.

An effort was made to have the market open six days a week, but farmers complained that this gave them little opportunity to prepare their merchandise.

The second market house, built in 1848, had a hall for public meetings, but it was so close to the Whitely, Eassler and Kelly machine shops on the site of the Arcade Hotel that the orator's speech was drowned out from the noise of hammers in the factory. Sessions held at night were not disturbed by this sound. Among the speakers heard were Stephen A. Douglas and Fred Douglas, the noted Negro orator.

There was a hay market to the west of the building and for years more wood than coal was sold. During the Civil War wood was sold for \$6 to \$7 a cord but afterwards the price went down to \$3 for the best beech.

Mill Run passed the market furnishing all the water that would be needed. There was a wooden bridge across the run and a quagmire prevented any streets from being built at this point to the south.

In the 1850's a walk was constructed across the mire to the site of the old Pennsylvania station and it is said that an effigy of Clemency L. Vallandigham was submerged in the swamp during the Civil War days near the site of the old market.

The farmers would arrive at the city market before 4 o'clock in the morning at which time the bell would ring for the opening. There would be the clatter of activity as the butchers placed the quarters of pork, mutton or beef on the blocks. Early visitors could inspect the meats and other produce but could not buy anything before the market master rang the bell at 4 a.m.

Many a Conestoga wagon was seen along with other vehicles filled with produce. They would come in with potatoes, butter, apples and fruits in season. Eggs would be packed in chaff because the roads were rough and the wagons were without springs.

This is a far cry from today's marketing when automobiles and trucks are used to bring the produce to market, and the items are all packed and practically ready for the pan.



This is Springfield's old City Hall that served the city from 1848 until 1890 when the present structure was completed. This city hall was located on what is now the Esplanade facing on High st. at the corner of Fountain av. 12/10/67 N-S

NOTE: THIS BUILDING WAS ALSO
THE CITY MARKET

Restrictions On Property Given City Are Outlined

(EDITOR'S NOTE—Clark County is observing its sesquicentennial anniversary. This is one of a number of stories prepared by staff writer Herbert K. Skinner to outline events in the early history of the area.)

By HERBERT K. SKINNER

Springfield, through its 166-year history, has had property deeded to its public for use, but with certain strings attached. It has been necessary for the city to take these conditions into consideration when changes in the face of the city are being considered.

One of the earliest such grants was when James Demint laid out the original plat and set aside an area for a public square at what is now Limestone and Columbia sts. This was to be the center of the city, in the eyes of Demint when he had his land surveyed and platted.

Through the years this condition has been met and when there was a move to build other than public property on the site of the square, a second thought was given that the property could revert to the heirs of the founder of the city.

The 217 acres comprising Snyder Park was given to the city by John and David Snyder as a playground for Clark County.

This recreational area was given to the city with the understanding that there would be no private concessions and that any charges made for visitors to the park would be expended for the maintenance of the park. This idea is still carried out. At the golf course, for example, fees are spent for maintaining the course.

According to Benjamin Prince's History of Springfield and Clark County, the Snyder family acquired the property in 1827 at the pre-emption price of \$1.25 per acre. Through inheritance, this land remained in the family through the years until it was turned over to the city for park purposes.

The gift was accompanied by a \$200,000 government bond as an endowment, along with \$25,000 for the construction of the Snyder Memorial Bridge across the creek midway through the park.

Another restrictive gift to the city was that of Oliver S. Kelly, one of the city's leading citizens, when he deeded over what is now the Esplanade. When O. S. Kelly was mayor of Springfield in 1889 he erected a fountain in the center of the Esplanade, which then was known as Fountain Square. Fountain av. had been Market st. before the erection of the fountain.



Memorial Park Shown In 1909

Here is the way Memorial Park appeared in 1909 when there was a soldier's monument in the place of the present flag pole. The statue of a Civil War soldier was modeled after J. A. Bailey and was cut by Henry W. Lovie of Philadelphia. It is of antique bronze and with its base of Quincy granite was found to weigh 30 tons when it was moved to its present location at the GAR Mound in Ferncliff Cemetery. The two cannon also were moved to the cemetery.

While the Esplanade was deeded to the city, the Kelly family put certain restrictions on its use. This was born out when in 1939 there was a move to put an underground garage under the square.

Carl Ultes, Sr., recalls this and said that the project could never have materialized, since Mill Run is under the Esplanade, which formerly had been a swamp. But it was the objection of the Kelly family that ended the project.

This area was designed to remain vacant, but to keep the land from returning to the heirs through a reversionary clause the county buildings were constructed there and the fourth corner was given over to the Soldiers Monument with is now the Memorial Park with the flagpole erected as a memorial to war veterans. A Civil War statue and cannons, originally at this point, have been removed to the GAR mound in Ferncliff Cemetery. But the Public Square idea is continued as planned by Demint, Springfield's founder.

Sensational Murder Occurred In 1864

(EDITOR'S NOTE—Clark County is observing its sesquicentennial anniversary. This is one of a number of articles prepared by staff writer Herbert A. Skinner to outline early events of the area.)

By HERBERT K. SKINNER

In the course of Springfield's 166-year history, there were many murder cases, but one of the most sensational was that of James Lowry, son of one of the city's proprietors on June 6, 1864. His father was Archbald Lowry, son of David Lowry, who came to Springfield at its very beginning.

The story is told in the Tri-weekly Republic with the lurid descriptions of the foul act by the reporters of that day.

Lowry was 65 years old at the time of the murder. He had lived a full life, according to the newspaper account, and in 1820 was considered one of the town's most promising young men.

He had clerked in a store at Lisbon and later worked in a paper mill in town. With his savings from his various positions, he bought 33 acres in the Third Ward at \$100 an acre, on which he sold lots.

The newspaper account said "evil assistants finally bankrupt him and he started his downward slide as proprietor of various saloons in town." Some of them had shady reputations, but none as bad as the one he was operating in 1864 when he was murdered by two men who broke into the establishment in search for bawdy fun.

The Lowry saloon was located in what was known at "Rat Row" in a wooden building on the west side of Market st., now the Esplanade, across from the Market House of that day, which was located on the present site of the Arcade Hotel.

The newspaper told how two men went to the door of the sa-

loon which had been closed for the night, and demanded to be let in. Lowry, the account said, came downstairs and told the men the place was closed for the night. They broke through the door and attacked Lowry. He was beaten about the head and later died of the injuries.

The men were arrested as they tried to get into the rooms of several women on the second floor.

John W. Wolf, a deputy of Marshal Green, made the arrests of George W. Meleney, 30, the proprietor of "Ou City Bakery" located on Main st. between Market and Center sts., and John Pugh, 30, of Xenia, who had been

without any previous charge against them.

The preliminary hearing resulted in both being held for trial on bond of \$2,000 each. The trial in December was long and tedious as witnesses for the prosecution, some of whom had unsavory reputations, told of the fight leading up to the killing.

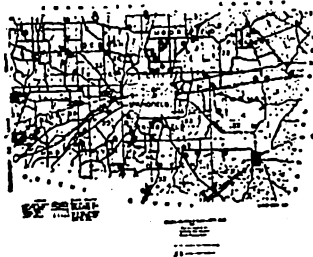
The defense brought out that both men were the fathers of children and Meleney was the owner of a local business. When

the trial ended in the middle of December, the jury found both men guilty of second degree murder and they were given life sentences.

An argument both on the streets and in the press followed over the verdict and sentence. The newspaper wrote a long editorial deploring the fact that both men had to spend life sentences away from their families but pointed out that despite the evidence given by some of the unsavory witnesses, neither man would have been in trouble had they not decided to spend the night in a bawdy house on Rat Row reputed to be among the most disreputable areas of the city. The newspaper thus approved the verdict.

"Rat Row" sometime later was destroyed by fire. During the blaze, it is said, firemen were restrained from saving the buildings and they were allowed to burn to the ground.

Clark County 1817-1967



working at the Bretney Tannery. Both were family men with good reputations prior to their "night of frolic" when the attack was made.

Witnesses said the two men were trying to get to the upstairs of the Lowry saloon and were arrested in one of the rooms, where several women were awakened from sleep.

The case caused a sensation in Springfield, first because of the victim, Lowry, who the paper said, "had fallen into disrepute in his advancing age," and secondly because the two men were

Springfield's First School House Was Opened In 1806

In the Ordinance of 1787, under which the Northwest Territory was organized, there was a provision that one section of the 36 sections in each township must be set aside for the support of the common school.

This was written into the Constitution of Ohio in 1803 and has indicated that the early pioneer

was greatly concerned over the subject of education.

In 1806, Nathaniel Pinkered opened the first school in Springfield. It was a log schoolhouse on what is now the northeast corner of Main st. and Fountain av. It was a subscription school and William Bloxum, an early teacher, received \$1.50 tuition for a 60-day term from each student. It was customary in such schools to admit younger pupils at half price.

According to Dr. Benjamin F. Prince in his Springfield and Clark County History, some of the burly young men were inclined to "rowdiness," and when they defied Mr. Bloxum he said he would maintain order even if he "stood in blood to his eyebrows." He gave the ringleader a severe whipping and there was no more trouble, history records.

An Englishman, Samuel Smith, served as justice of the peace as well as a school teacher. He was described as a square-shouldered man of "no ordinary talents" who believed in "treating them rough." He regarded flogging as an indispensable part of discipline, and full-grown young men and women were often compelled to stand and receive the savage strokes of his ruler.

For 10 years his school was regarded as the highest seat of learning in Springfield. Smith's wife assisted him in teaching the smaller children. The school was their cabin.

The Pinkered school was the beginning of education in the future city. There were no blackboards, maps or other school fixtures. It had dirt floors, greased paper windows and smoky rooms.

There were no unpleasant comparisons, since the conditions existing in the school were very much like those in the homes of the early settlers, as far as improvements were concerned.

William A. Rockel, in his history of Springfield and Clark County, said when describing the first schools. "A log was omitted for light, and in the space single window panes were used end to end, and the windows were so high that the little fellows could only see the sky; below the windows were broad boards for desks and the larger pupils sat there facing the light."

When he was a young man of 19, Whitelaw Reid, who later made a name for himself as a diplomat and New York newspaper publisher, taught school in South Charleston. It is recorded that he wore his hair long and was considered a distinctive type.

The backwoods school teachers were welcome in the homes of Clark County. During this period there was little said about the scale of wages. The high cost of living did not disturb them in those days of the simple life. Emphasis was on reading, writing and spelling as well as "figgers."

The children of the early schools memorized much of the New Testament and on Friday afternoons and in Sunday School they would recite it.

There were "whispering schools" and unless the student studied aloud, their lips moving, the teacher was uncertain about their learning. It was believed that the student was unable to grasp the thought unless his lips moved in unison with his mentality.

In those early days filling the water bucket was a reward for careful study. When the water bucket was filled at a neighboring farm or spring there were boys who wanted to bring the water in order to escape the humdrum of study. The common drinking bucket and dipper were used before the days when the state board of health interfered with such practice.

At one time, Reuben Miller and James L. Torbert operated private schools under the same roof but independent of each other. Both taught advance pupils specializing in English grammar.

Mrs. Ann Warder, a pioneer Springfield woman, brought an instructor from Pennsylvania to teach her own children. Some of her friends were permitted to send their children and later Mrs. Warder engaged in teaching more advanced pupils having as her assistants a Mr. Lewis and a Miss Armstrong.

Some of the pay schools, espe-

cially those taught by ministers, incorporated the Bible in their course of study. Miss Lavinia Baird taught in her own home accepting children who were unable to pay tuition. She said she was prompted in this by the "need of doing good in the community."

In 1844 a boarding school for young women was opened by the Rev. Mr. Moore. It was noted for its examination and literary programs. In 1848 the Rev. Chandler Robbins opened Greenway Institute, which was a boys school, a counterpart of the female seminary. The number of students was limited and it was a requirement that they board at the school. Greenway Institute later was utilized as the first public hospital in Springfield.

In 1849, a general law was passed allowing any town of 200 inhabitants to organize and conduct graded schools. City records show that in 1850 two Springfield citizens were appointed to manage the public schools. While the schools were still private enterprises supported in part by subscriptions, there also was an apportionment of public funds, but this money was disbursed without supervision. And almost anyone could qualify as a teacher.

In 1851 it was decided to "build two schoolhouses for the purpose of conducting common schools" and in 1853 two lots were purchased and in 1854 contracts were let for the buildings. In 1855 the first board of education was named including Chandler Robbins, Joseph Brown and C. H. Williams. Because of a large German population, instruction in German was arranged.

In 1849 the Rev. Jonathan Edwards founded a select school for young women. For a time it was housed in the First Presbyterian Church. Later property was acquired on the site of Northern School, which had been the site of James Demint's cabin home.

The school received moral support from the Presbyterians of Ohio and became very popular. While it was founded by Jonathan Edwards, when it was installed on its own property it was managed by John A. Smith as a denominational school for girls.

In 1857, the Rev. James L. Rodgers purchased half interest in the school and five years later he owned it all. In 1871, it was acquired by the board of education. Thus the Springfield Female Seminary became Northern School.

The first high school was located on W. High st. This became a junior high school when South High School was built in 1911.

Clark County Streams Once Powered 105 Mills

Springfield (O.) DAILY NEWS Wednesday, October 4, 1967-7



The flour mill at Clifton, which is on the site of the original Davis Mill of Owen Davis, first settler there, is shown here in a very old photograph as it appeared in the 19th

Century. This is believed by some to be the original Davis mill, rather than the one now operating on the same site.
10-4-67 News

(EDITOR'S NOTE — Clark County is observing its sesquicentennial anniversary. This is one of a number of stories prepared by staff writer Herbert K. Skinner to outline events in the early history of the area.)

By HERBERT K. SKINNER

The Ohio Gazetteer in 1816 said: "No country in the world is better watered with limpid streams and navigable rivers than the United States of America and no people better deserve these advantages or are better calculated to make proper use of them than her industrious and adventurous citizens."

Clark County rated high in this situation, having the Little Miami River, Mad River, Buck Creek and Beaver Creek, along with their many tributaries. Mad River, with a fall of eight to 10 feet in every mile in Clark County, carries more water into the Big Miami River than any of its other tributaries.

Murat Halstead once said in describing the many advantages of the Springfield area: "The various streams in the county furnish water power for about 25 grist mills, more than 30 saw mills, two paper mills, two oil mills and seven or eight carding and fulling mills."

In his study of the streams of Clark County, Dean C. G. Shatzer discovered 105 sites once occupied by mills. While the ruins of some still remained others were known to have existed. These were saw mills, grist mills, wagon shops, blacksmith shops and distilleries at frequent intervals along Mad River.

CONT'D

The 20th Century History of Springfield and Clark County compiled by William M. Rockel, lists mills along Mad River. The one, which is believed to have been the first, was erected on Mad River by Archibald Steele, who settled the village of Medway in 1807. It was a grist mill. A few years later a man named McQueen built a saw mill and grist mill a short distance above Medway. It was torn down in 1832.

The second Mad River mill was a saw and hemp mill, erected in 1808 by Jacob Kiblinger at Eagle City. In 1820 Daniel Kiblinger and Ira Paige built a grist mill at the same point which they operated until 1832. This mill changed hands many times and was still in operation in 1922. At one time it also was a distillery.

Prior to 1810 Charles Rector built a small distillery at the mouth of Storm's Creek on Mad River. He later put in a grist mill. In 1810 Phillip Kiser built a grist mill on Mad River in the vicinity of Tremont City. A still was later added.

About 1818 John and James Leffel erected a grist mill at a point on Mad River variously known as the Hertzler's Mills and Tecumseh Mills and Snyderville Mills. James Leffel continued it until 1831. It was later taken over by Daniel Hertzler who operated it for 20 years and amassed a large fortune.

John Shartle built a grist mill in the vicinity of Medway in 1830. It was known as the Woodbury

BUCK CREEK MILLS

Buck Creek afforded as much mill power as Mad River and had about as many mills. Probably the first use of Buck Creek waters was at Lagonda in 1806 when Simon Kenton established his mill there. This was a grist mill and a carding machine was attached which did not prove a success because of imperfect machinery. The grist mill was small and the carding machine was run by hand. Kenton left the mill in 1812. It later was bought by Jeremiah Warder.

Near Snyder Park Robert Renick, in 1807, built a grist mill. It was later purchased by Henry Bechtel. In 1814 Peter Kitt built a distillery on the large spring on the farm of J. T. Warder near Lagonda. In 1819 William Hunter built a mill west of Catawba. It later was run by John W. Yeazell. Another mill in the Catawba area was built around the same period by John M. Dawson. It was for grinding corn. Nathaniel Cartmell built a grist mill in Pleasant Township not far from the Hunter Mill. A woolen mill and a distillery were later added.

Joseph Perrin operated a saw mill about 1820 along Buck Creek. In 1830 Jeremiah Warder purchased the entire village of Lagonda on Buck Creek consisting of eight or 10 buildings, saw mills, woolen factory and grist mill for \$3,000. He erected a new large mill on the south side of the creek. The old mill was transformed into a distillery. This mill was finally taken down about 1867.

John M. Croft in 1830 operated a mill upstream from Lagonda and later a distillery and saw mill. In 1836 the Baldwin Mill was erected on the west branch of Buck Creek not far from the county line. It was close to where the Mechanicsburg pike crosses the stream.

The Barnett Mill was operated by Samuel and James Barnett in 1840. It was operated for over 50 years. Hugh Wilson built a mill in New Moorefield in 1840. It afterwards became known as the Yeazell Mill. The Rabbitt-Olds woolen mill, built in 1847, operated until 1874 when it finally went out of business.

The P. P. Mast Co. used part of the mill power of Buck Creek in operation of its works. In 1841 the Barnetts sold James Leffel one-twelfth part of the water-power and the same amount to Richard Rodgers. Leffel started a saw mill and foundry and afterwards he and Andrew Richards built and operated a cotton mill and machine shop which later passed into the hands of the P. P. Mast Co. Rodgers sold his power back to James Barnett, who built a linseed oil mill which

he sold to John Foos. This mill also was absorbed by the P. P. Mast Co.

In 1842 John A. Pitts, the inventor of the Pitts Separator, came to Springfield from Rochester, N.Y., and bought land and power from the Barnetts and built shops for the manufacture of the Pitts Separator. It later was taken over by the O. S. Kelly Co.

In 1865 J. and D. L. Snyder constructed a hydraulic for the purpose of utilizing the waters of Buck Creek. This hydraulic began at the east end of the present park and ran down along the south and east lines of the park. Part of it was utilized for park purposes. The pond and other features of the park were located on this hydraulic.

Their intention was to build a mill and distillery, but about that time federal tax became so high on whisky that the original purpose was abandoned. Since steam power was being more universally used than water power, the project was never fully developed. It was later leased to John Foos and the St. John Sewing Machines were manufactured at a shop not far from Main st. This burned down in the early 1880's and sometime later the hydraulic was turned off.

The old Foos Oil Mill was constructed on the cliffs immediately west of Factory st. which is now Wittenberg av. John Foos purchased the Barnett oil mill in 1861 on Warder st. The machinery from this mill and several others was removed in 1870 to the mill on the cliffs. This was in operation until 1890.

BEAVER CREEK MILLS

The Redmond Mill was first in operation in 1808 built by John Foster. It was located east of the city about a half mile north of the National rd. It was operated as a grist mill, saw mill and distillery by a number of different owners. It was destroyed by fire in 1839 and was rebuilt by Robert Rodgers in 1840. The mill was in active operation for many years into the 20th Century.

The Taylor Mill, built in 1830 was first used as a carding and fulling mill. Built by James Taylor, it went through many hands until 1869, when it was purchased by Samuel Taylor. Later it was abandoned.

Oliver Armstrong and Pierson Spinning built the Benson Mill in 1832. The mill was situated on the east side of Old Columbus rd. Armstrong and Spinning operated it until 1852 when it was bought by J. M. Benson, who operated it until the 1880's. Later it was destroyed by fire. It was operated as a grist mill.

10-4-67 N-S

CONT'D

James Haney built a mill on Beaver Creek in 1830 which was operated for 35 years. In 1839 James Goodfellow and Zephania

Sexton built another mill on Beaver Creek not far from the Haney mill.

In 1845 Robert Smith built a saw mill about a mile further down Beaver Creek and immediately south of National Road. It was abandoned about 1890.

CHAPMAN'S CREEK MILLS

Chapman Creek enters Mad River about a mile and a half south of the Champaign County line. It was in the early days a rapid stream and afforded very great water power. The creek was named for William Chapman, who erected a grist mill where Tremont City is now located. It was erected in 1802 and operated for a number of years.

A Mr. Lance built a distillery

between Tremont City and Mad River on Chapman's Creek in 1830. It operated until 1860. The Seitz Mill, erected by Andrew Seitz, cost \$5,000 to build. An Englishman named Chatterlen built and operated a carding mill in the Tremont City area for a number of years. It later was destroyed by fire.

Henry Enoch built a grist mill in the Tremont City area in 1820. There was a still in connection. William Enoch, a brother of Henry, built a grist mill. Both were finally abandoned.

West of the Enoch mills, sometime later a mill was built. In 1860 Jacob Dibert erected a large

mill and operated for about 20 years. Around 1830 Charles Ross built a mill in the Eagle City area east of St. Paris pike nearly opposite the road leading to Valley pike. About the same year a grist mill and distillery was built on Mad River on the Nauman farm. Nothing is known further about this mill except that it was later purchased by Andrew Seitz, Sr., a resident of Springfield.

In 1830 the Croft Mill was built and was operated as a grist, saw mill and distillery. It was later operated by Martin Snyder and then abandoned.

Elijah Harnett in 1825 erected a flouring mill west of Springfield on Mad River. It was later taken over by Henry Snyder who also built a distillery. The mill was destroyed by fire in 1854 and was then rebuilt. This mill became the nucleus of the Snyder fortune.

Peter Sintz in 1831 built a mill near Rock Run where it enters Mad River. It was later operated by George Grisso and became known as the Grisso Mill.

Andrew Leffel built a mill on Mad River close to the railroad bridge in 1833. It was operated for about 10 years and later sold to James Robinson, who attached a distillery. Both the mill and distillery were destroyed by fire

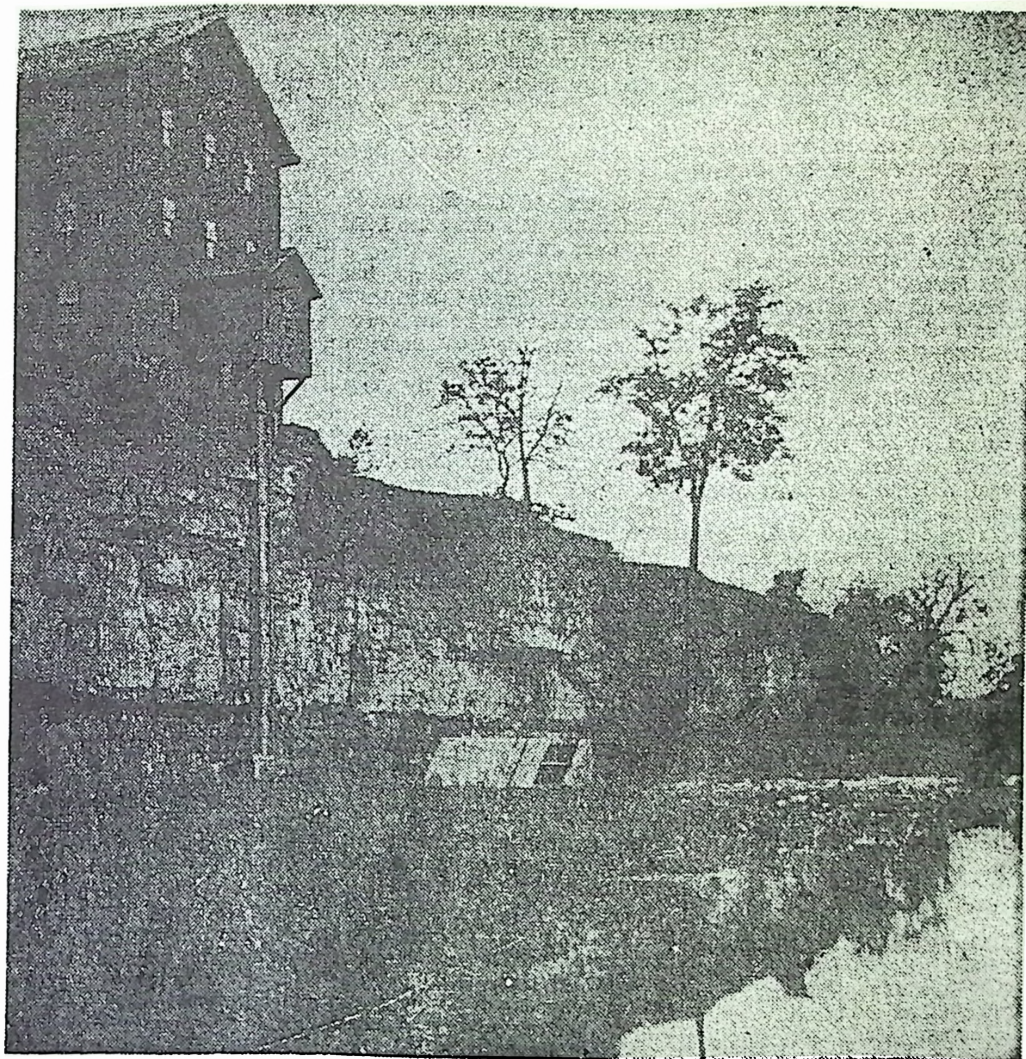
about 1850 and were never rebuilt.

In 1839 Kiblinger and Kneisley built a mill east of Tremont City. It was what was perhaps the largest distillery on Mad River. A grist mill and saw mill were attached. The industry caused the building of quite a few houses in the immediate vicinity and afterwards it was given the name of Owl-town. About 1859 this establishment became the property of Daniel Blose, John Blose and Jacob Seitz. They conducted the business for several years at a great profit.

In 1865 the distillery part was abandoned and afterwards a grist mill was carried on. Then the entire business was abandoned and there is nothing to indicate that any industry had been at that spot.

The Rubsam mill located south of the railroad bridge on Mad River west of the city was originally built by Daniel Hertzler in 1865 and was completed and ready for operation at the time that Mr. Hertzler was murdered. Samuel Huffman, a son-in-law of Hertzler, ran it until 1869 when Mrs. J. W. Rubsam, a daughter of Mr. Hertzler, became the owner.

There was a mill in the vicinity of Enon on Mad River opened up on the Harshman Farm. A still also was conducted there. It passed out of existence many years ago.



John Foos operated an oil mill on the banks of Buck Creek. The products were linseed oil and colored paints. It was at the corner of Cliff and Cedar sts. The column running from the plant to the water housed the turbine that drove the machinery from the water power of Buck Creek. The picture was taken around 1873. 10-4-67 News

Early Settlers Rode Horses To Get Marriage License, Reach Minister

(EDITOR'S NOTE — Clark County is observing its sesqui-centennial anniversary. This is one of a number of stories prepared by staff writer Herbert K. Skinner to outline events in the early history of the area.)

By HERBERT K. SKINNER

In these days of elaborate and often costly weddings, there is a great contrast from those of the pioneer days of Ohio when the

two lovers would ride off on horseback to get the license and then seek a pastor who would tie the knot. 12/15/67 NS

Such a story is told by Martin J. Cummins of Northridge about Robert and Sarah Cummins, two of the early settlers of Clark and Champaign Counties.

In 1811, this young couple rode

horses from Mechanicsburg to Urbana, where they picked up the marriage license, and then rode to South Charleston to seek a minister to perform the marriage ceremony.

Robert Cummins was born in Greenbrier County, Va., Nov. 11, 1787. During his early childhood his family moved to Cincinnati. His father, Robert, Sr., was a doctor, and his grandfather, John Cummins, operated a water-powered saw mill on Mill Creek. The town of Cumminsville, now a part of Cincinnati, was named for the family.

A third son of John Cummins, David, was the first child born in the city of Cincinnati, according to records of Dr. Drake, famed doctor of that day, who attended the birth.

Robert Cummins' mother died in 1812 in Butler County and it was soon after that time that Robert moved to the future Clark County.

His wife, Sarah, was born in 1789 in York County, Pa., the

daughter of John Shawl, an early settler in the Mechanicsburg area.

On Nov. 16, 1815 Robert and Sarah rode their horses through the early winter weather from Mechanicsburg to Urbana, where they took out their marriage license.

From Urbana they continued their horseback ride to South Charleston and the home of a cousin, the Rev. Alexander Cummins, a Methodist minister, who married them.

The Rev. Mr. Cummins, during 1815, was on leave from the ministry to rebuild his health. During that period he taught school in South Charleston. When his health returned, the Rev. Mr. Cummins resumed his ministry in the Miami Circuit, where he worked with the Rev. Russell Bigelow. The Rev. Mr. Cummins died of tuberculosis in 1823 in Cincinnati at the age of 36.

After their marriage, Robert and Sarah lived on a farm in Pleasant Township in Clark

County, where they reared six children, Alexander, Eleanor, James, Hiram, Joseph and Margaret. A son, William Shawl, died in infancy.

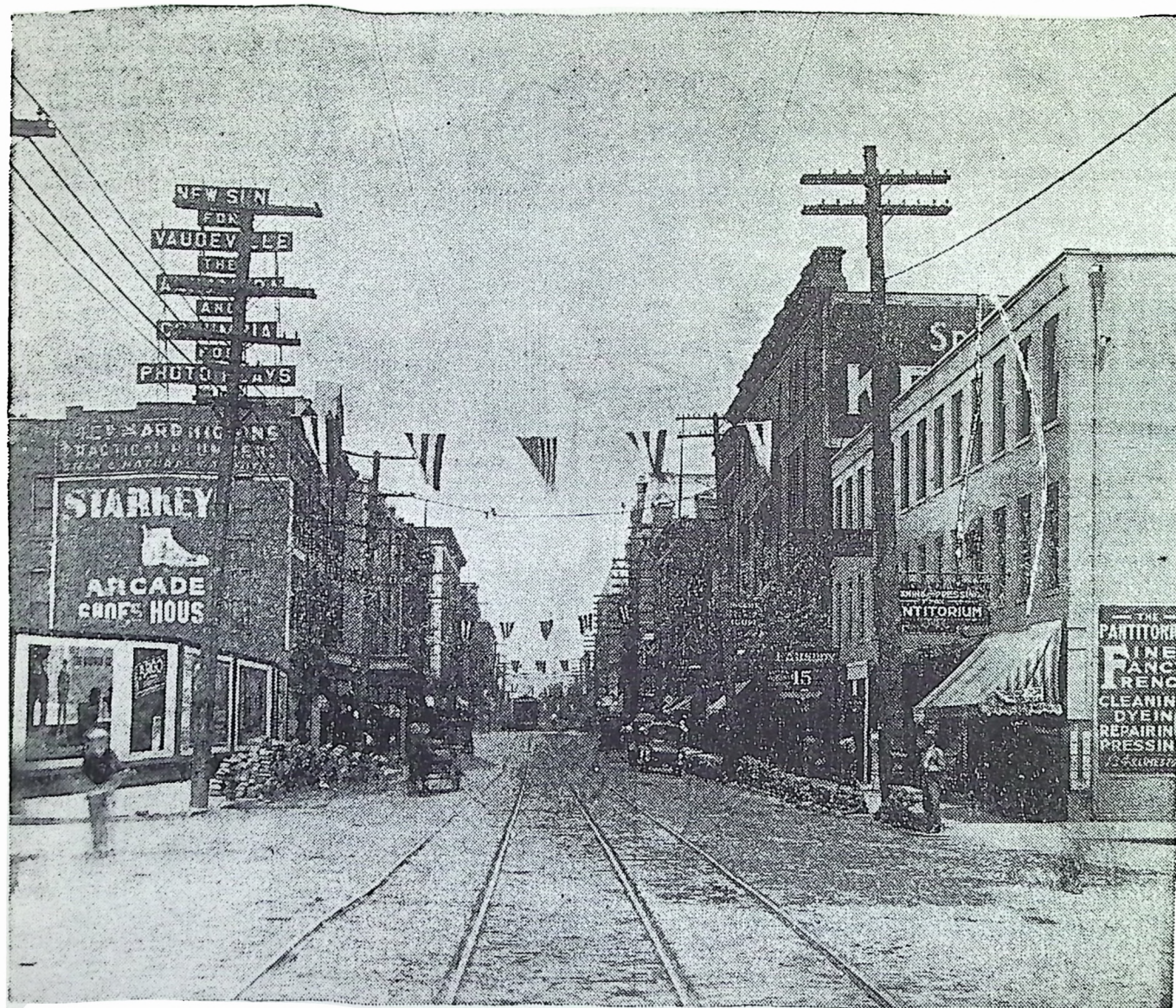
In March, 1849, they moved to a farm near Lewistown in Logan County. In November, 1865, they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. The following September Robert died.

Sarah continued to live until 1875. They are buried in Lewistown Cemetery, which was at one time part of the farm they owned.



ROBERT AND SARAH CUMMINS
on wedding anniversary, 1865

Was Limestone St. Named For City's Rock Formation Or Maysville, Ky.?



By HERBERT K. SKINNER

There has always been a question in the minds of many Springfielders how Limestone st. got its name. Some will say it is because of the underlying limestone formations on which much of Springfield is built and is seen in outcroppings around Cliff Park, Buck Creek and in Fern-cliff Cemetery. *12-26-67 H-S*

Others will report, but they are in the minority, that Limestone st. got its name because it is the direct route to Maysville, Ky., which in early days was known as Limestone. This is nearer the truth because, over this route a good part of Springfield's early migration took place.

It is interesting to know just how the road was laid out and for what purpose in the beginning, because in the early 1800's travel to this part of Ohio was over existing roads and trails leading from Cincinnati, through Lebanon and on to Xenia and then north over the Bullsken trail of the Indians to Springfield and on to Detroit.

Simon Kenton was responsible for a wagon road cut through from below Hillsboro to the settlement at Springfield in 1802. The story is revealed in an old history of Highland County written in 1858 by Daniel Scott, a newspaperman of that day. The history tells small happenings that are rarely part of the later accounts that involved early settlers in New Market, the first settlement in Highland County.

CONT'D

Springfield Was Busy Community In 1911

This is the corner of S. Limestone and Washington sts. around 1911. On the left is the Columbia Theater on the site of the present Regent Theater. In 1912 the Columbia Theater wall where the large "Starkey Arcade Show Horse" sign is seen, collapsed while it was being shored up from dam-

age from Mill Run, which ran under the building. Two workmen were killed in the accident. This led to the building of the new theater. Where the billboards are seen here, Mill Run ran as an open stream.

12-22-67 News

As the settlement grew with new business coming to town it happened that a hatter named Michael Stroup arrived to set up a business. Because of his limited raw material and more limited capital, he was unable to buy trimmings for the finished hats after the first lot was sold. He was faced with the need for a chance to make a fast dollar.

But Hillsboro, on the trail from the towns of Chillicothe and Bainbridge, won out. Today New Market is little more than a cross-road. But travelers from Hillsboro to Springfield use this same wagon trail cut out by the hatter and his companions over the pack horse trail Kenton had cut earlier. But today it is known as Ohio 72 and comes into Springfield over Limestone st. which in the early days was the most direct route between Springfield and Limestone (Maysville) Ky.

It happened that Simon Kenton had built a mill on the banks of Mad River in the Springfield settlement and had ordered mill stones from Maysville. He had employed a Robert Boyce of New Market to bring the stones from Maysville, which was then known as Limestone, and to employ such help as was needed from New Market to cut a wagon road through to Springfield.

Stroup was one of three men hired for this work. They were to follow the trail Kenton had cut through the wilderness between New Market and Springfield. A trail for pack horse is not a wagon road and so this was the job laid out for the three men and Boyce who would drive the wagon pulled by two horses and an ox.

12-26-67 N-3

The men were to be paid a dollar a day and for provisions they took two large ponies of corn bread and two flitches of bacon. The party camped out in the raw February weather each night. After the third day one of the three trail cutters became sick and had to return to New Market. That left only two men to cut the wagon trail.

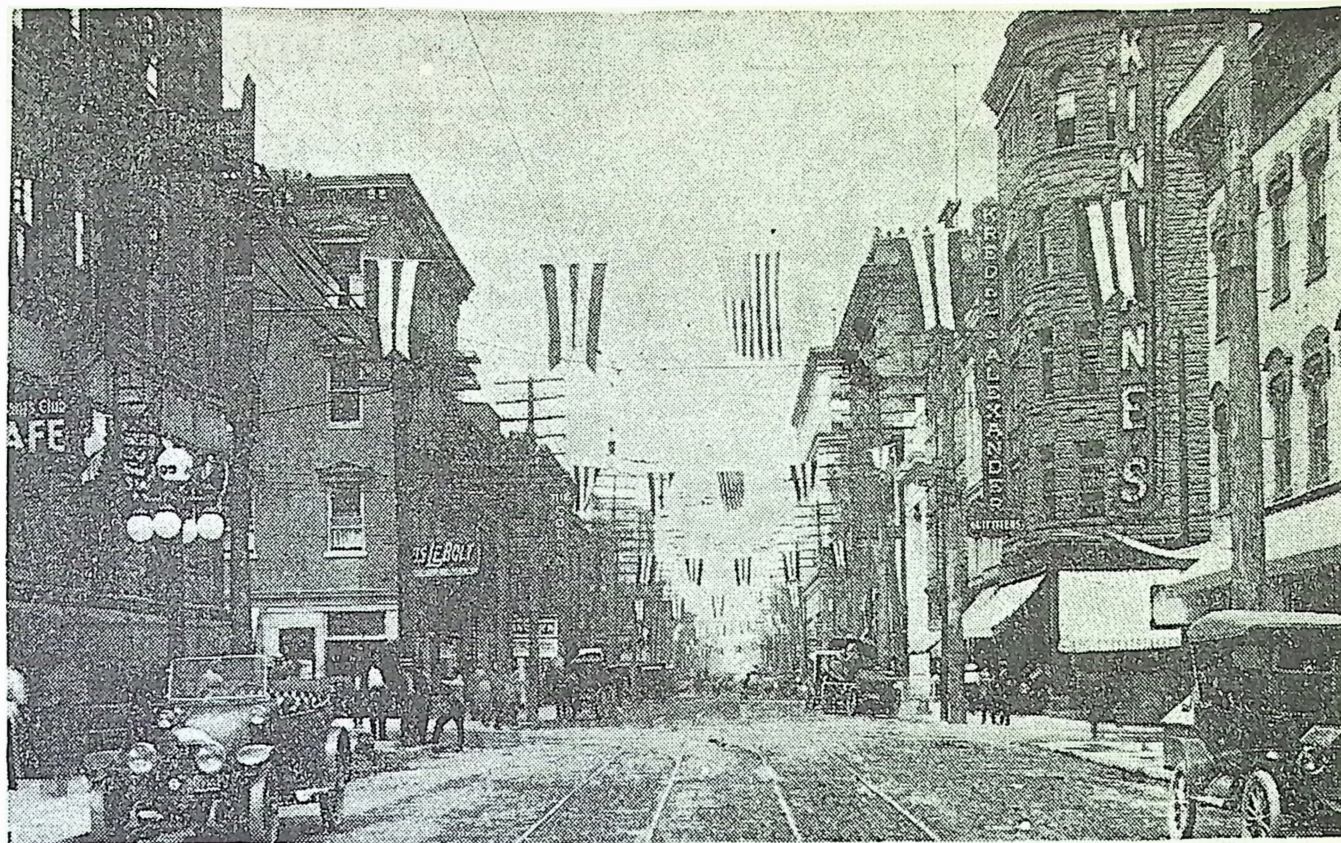
The rough weather and tree-cutting left little time for hunting game and they were limited in their food to the bacon and corn bread.

When within 12 miles of Springfield the party came near freezing to death. They had been traveling several hours in the midst of an unusually severe storm of rain and snow and were wet clear through. Night came on them in the midst of a prairie and soon became so dark that they could not proceed. They took shelter under the wagon and attempted to light a fire. After losing their flint in numbed hands from the cold, Stroup suggested they try to strike a spark on the mill stone. After repeated attempts they were able to start a fire. They were unable to sleep that night because of the frozen condition of the clothing. During the night one of the horses broke loose and was found next morning where he had sought shelter in a grove of trees.

In the morning, while hunting the horse, they found that they had nearly perished within a mile of an Indian village where they finally got warm and were given a cooked breakfast.

When the party finally arrived at Kenton's mill, the old Indian fighter was not there. They could get nothing to eat and they set out to find him. Kenton was found in his cabin about four miles from the mill. He had no money to pay for the delivery of the mill stone and had no provisions for the return trip. This was 15 days after leaving New Market.

The men started back and stopped at the tavern of a friendly operator in Springfield where they were given a meal on credit. This may have been the Foos Tavern which was one of the first in the settlement.



Main and Limestone sts. in 1911 showed a busy city, with a mixture of automobiles and horses and buggies parked at curbs. In the left foreground is the old M & M bank building with the Maddox Fisher Bldg. on the other corner. Both of these are still seen in downtown Springfield. On the far

right corner is the Zimmerman bldg., which burned down some years ago and has been replaced by the present Zimmerman bldg. of less height. As noted in the picture there were not the strict parking laws of today, with cars and buggies parking facing in either direction. 11-12-67 N-3

The returning trip to New Market was made in four days. After 19 days on the road they were back in their home town. They were nearly famished and their clothes were torn to shreds.

Scott, the historian, puts it mildly when he wrote that "Stroup was not a little vexed at the result of his effort to raise money by road-cutting, but in the true pioneer spirit he went to work and in a short time managed to get sufficient money to buy trimmings for his supply of hats. He soon forgot the 19 days he spent in the wilderness which were lost, however, only to him and his companions, for the result of their labors was a permanent road, important to this day as a public highway under the title of the 'Old Mad River Road.'"

New Market vied with Hillsboro for the county seat, figuring it was the oldest town and Hillsboro was not settled until 1807.

Esplanade Celebration Honored 'Boys Of 1861'

Springfield was decked out in holiday attire in 1912 at a patriotic celebration which centered in the Esplanade. The event was given by the "Boys of 1912" in honor of the "Boys of 1861." In the background can be seen

several tents erected just south of the Arcade Hotel. The marchers paraded around the Esplanade passing in front of the reviewing stand erected at the east entrance to the city building.



Scenes Of Downtown Springfield Shortly After Turn Of Century

13.

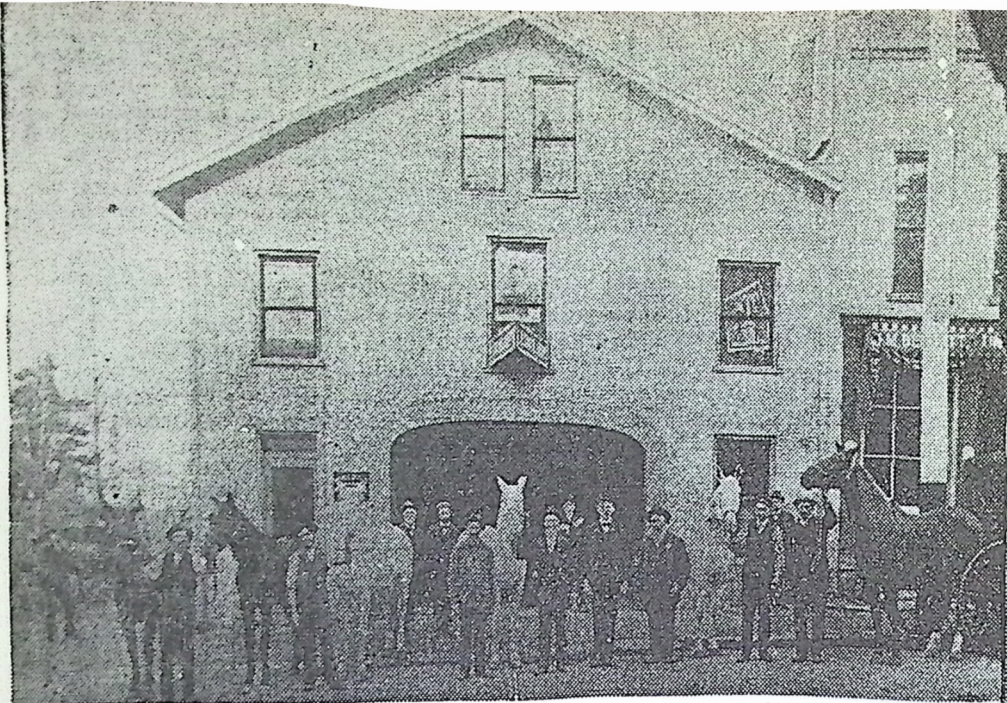


Changes have been made in this part of Springfield since this picture was taken in 1911 looking west on Main st. In the right foreground is the old Lagonda National Bank and across the street on the right is the present First National Bank bldg., known in those days as the Fairbanks bldg. because of the Fairbanks Theater which was the city's main show-place in its day. The bank on the corner then was the American Trust and Savings Bank. Across the street, the building

housing the United Cigars Stores Co., Fry Signs and dental offices is now the location of the new, modern Springfield Bank. To the west (left center) is the building, torn down this year, which housed the Hadley Furniture Store several years ago. In 1911 it was the Rosensteel and Weber Furniture Store. The Hippidrome and Princess Theaters also were in this area.

11-12-67 N-S

ALSO KNOWN AS
TRAPPER'S CORNER



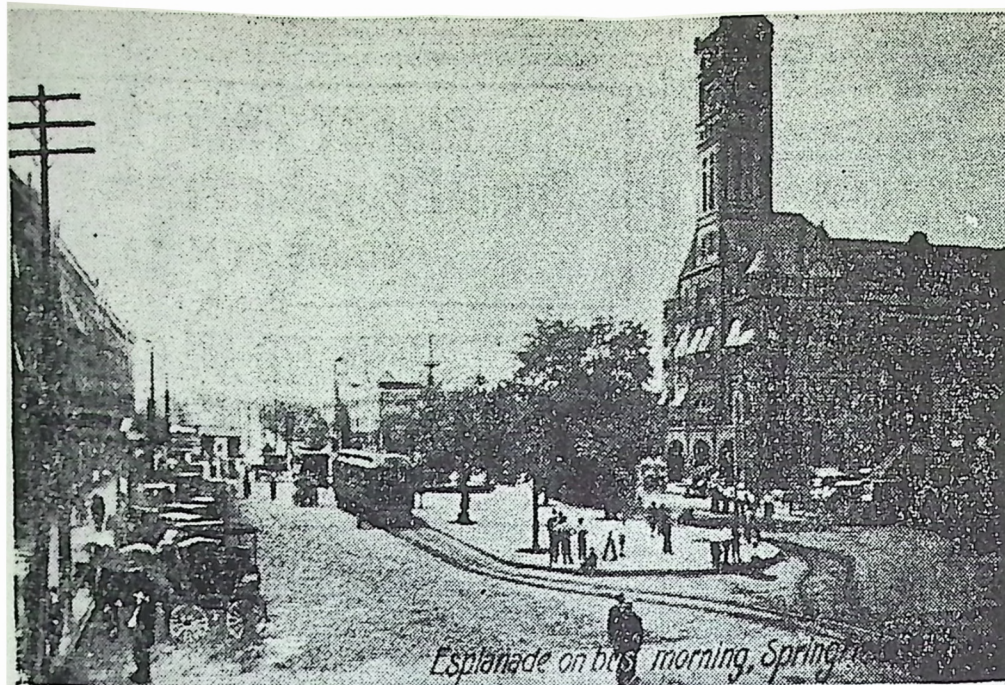
Springfield had many fine livery stables in the years prior to and after the turn of the century. This is the auction stables of C. E. Todd. The picture was taken in 1901 in downtown Springfield.

11-12-67 N-S



Black's Opera House, at the corner of Main st. and Fountain av., on the site of the present First National Bank bldg., was destroyed by fire in 1904. Two lives were lost in the collapse of the west wall. Shown in the background is the First Presbyterian Church at the corner of Main and Fisher sts.

11-12-67 N-S



Back in the horse and buggy days, the Esplanade was a place where shoppers and Springfield visitors congregated. It was here that the interurban traction lines discharged their passengers. It was in the nerve center of the city. An important department store, The When Store, was on the corner of the Esplanade and High st. The Arcade was close by, as was the city market and other stores as well as the railroad depot, one block away. This is the Esplanade on a busy morning, in the early part of the century. 12/20/678



One of the highlights of a visit to Springfield by residents of the rural areas was a tour of the Arcade which housed a number of small shops as well as some which had entrances both in the Arcade and on the Esplanade. This is a view of the famed Arcade as it appeared some years ago. It still is a going concern and a place visited by many local residents. For some years there was a small fountain in the arcade. It has been removed in recent years. The Arcade was erected in 1883 as part of the Arcade building erected on the site of the former Whitely, Fassler and Kelly factory.

12-20-675

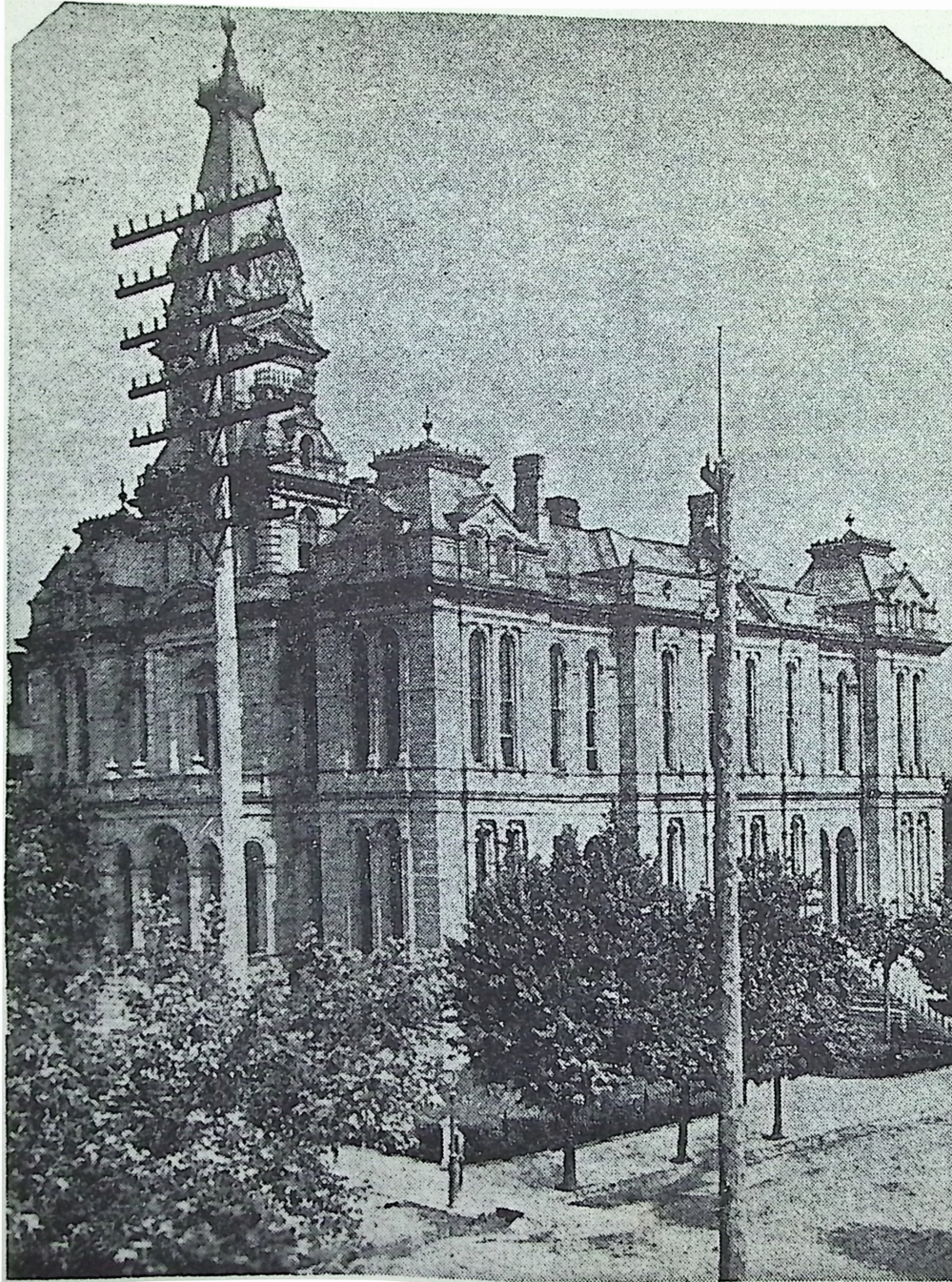
City Building Cost \$250,000

At one time the Springfield City Building, shown here, was considered one of the best municipal buildings in the state. Construction was started in 1888 and was finished in 1890. Cost of the building was \$250,000. It housed then, as it does now, the city market.



12-19-67 H-3

First Clark County Courthouse



Here is the second courthouse built for Clark County. It was begun in 1878 and was finished in 1881. It was completed at a cost of \$115,000. The building was damaged in a disastrous fire Feb. 26, 1918.

Occupied In 1821

(EDITOR'S NOTE—Clark County is observing its sesquicentennial anniversary. This is one of a number of stories prepared by staff writer Herbert K. Skinner to outline events in the early history of the area.)

By HERBERT K. SKINNER

When James Demint laid out the town of Springfield, his surveyor designated a square located at Limestone and Columbia sts, as the location of public buildings. On this intersection, to this day, the seat of Clark County government is maintained.

When Champaign County was set off from Greene County in 1805, Springfield was the temporary county seat. In the following year court was held here. It is understood that the court was held in the home of George Fythian, whose home was in the square designated for county use.

This session of court was to deal with the murder trial of Robert Renick, who was charged with the slaying of an Indian. Renick, who had been associated with James Demint in business, was acquitted of the charge, since it was said that the Indian was treacherous and at that time the settlers were still prejudiced against the red man because of cruelties.

The next session of court was held in Urbana and no further sessions were held in Springfield until after Clark County was recognized by the Ohio Assembly. For the first four years after Clark County was set up Jan. 1, 1818, court was held in the tavern of John Hunt.

Early in 1819, Maddux Fisher and others petitioned the court to set up a seat of government on the military square set aside by Demint. The sum of \$2,215 was subscribed by various citizens to start the construction. This sum was found insufficient and finally \$3,972 was appropriated to complete the building. With this appropriation, some of the towns-

Continued

people felt that it would bankrupt the county.

In the early days of Springfield, Mill Run divided the town into two parts. There was Sleepy Hollow on the northeast side of the run and Old Virginia on the southwest portion of the town.

Historians record that the Old Virginia side of town was the more aggressive and business-like, while the Sleepy Hollow portion seemed to be more backward. The new courthouse was on the Sleepy Hollow side of town.

Maddux Fisher, who donated heavily for the new courthouse and was instrumental in the formation of Clark County, was interested in the Sleepy Hollow part of town. To show his interest in the "backward" portion of the community, he built a mansion in 1825 on the north side of Buck Creek. It was the most pretentious mansion in Springfield.

It was argued that there was little purpose in building a courthouse if there would be no jail. The Old Virginia side of town decided they wanted the jail building and guaranteed the expense of the building if it was located in that part of the community. The jail was built between Main and Columbia sts. on Fisher st. That building was completed in 1818. The courthouse was not ready for occupancy until 1821. During this time the court was still held in Hunt's Tavern.

The cost of the jail was \$80. It was 16 feet square and built of logs. The first jailer was Abraham Mareness and he chained a black bear nearby to intimidate the lawless of the town.

Dr. Benjamin Prince, in his history of the county, tells of a Negro named Jackson who tore the door off the jail in order to escape. He threw the door into Mill Run and ignored the bear which was supposed to frighten both those inside and outside the bastille.

Since the jail would need repairs because of the damaged doorway, it was decided to build a new jail on the site of the present Soldiers' Monument at Limestone and Columbia sts. This was built of oak timbers, hewed square and the logs were bolted. It was all wooden and there were several thicknesses of the floor. It was covered with a brick veneer and was used until the site was designated as a soldiers monument.

The third jail was started in 1850 at the corner of Spring and High sts. and was completed in 1852. It was of stone and brick and served the city until 1880, when it was pulled down and the materials used in the construction of the present jail building behind the Courthouse.

In 1827 a cupola was added to the Clark County Courthouse at a cost of \$450. In 1828 a bell was purchased for the building. It was the first bell in Springfield. The jailer rang it every morning at 5 o'clock and again at 9 o'clock in the evening. The morning ringing of the bell was the signal for many of the townspeople to start their day's activities, Dr. Prince reported. 12/10/67 N-S

In 1868 the commissioners erected the east county building to supplement the courthouse and the county offices were there until 1904. In 1878 the second courthouse was started and was ready for occupancy in 1881.

The courthouse and jail were built at a cost of \$115,000. During the building of the courthouse from 1878 until 1881, court was held in the west building. In 1900 the west building was torn down and the present structure was erected at a cost of \$110,000. The courthouse was damaged by fire in 1918.

On June 18, 1840 the citizens of Springfield built a log cabin on Main st. in honor of the "Tippecanoe and Tyler Too" campaign. Gen. William Henry Harrison was expected in the city that day and between 15,000 and 20,000 people were out to hear him. It is recorded that over 500 flags and banners were strung along Main st.

It was a big day in Springfield and a table was spread 1,000 feet in length with food for all. The crowd journeyed east on National rd. to meet the distinguished visitor. When the famed presidential candidate reached Springfield, he was informed of the death of his son and injury to his grandson in an accident and he immediately canceled his speech and journeyed homeward.

County's First Churches Were Community

9-24-67 N-S

Bulwark

(EDITOR'S NOTE — Clark County is observing its sesquicentennial anniversary. This is one of a number of stories prepared by staff writer Herbert K. Skinner to outline events in the early history of the area.)

By **HERBERT K. SKINNER**

Griffith Foos' log tavern was the first religious meeting house in the early days of Springfield. The first services were held in 1803, according to Dr. Benjamin Prince's history of Springfield and Clark County. Both Foos and his wife were charter members of the Knob Prairie Christian Church, constructed at what was later to become Enon.

It was a coincidence that Clark County's first church should be organized near the site of the famed Enon Mound where the ancient Mound-builders had formerly worshiped.

The Knob Prairie Christian Church was organized in the log cabin home of Jonathan Baker in 1806 by Barton W. Stone and William Kinkade of Kentucky. At revival meetings there was the usual jerking and falling down of converts "seeing a new light" hitherto unknown to them. They called themselves Christians and were designated "New Lights." This church drew its congregation from all denominations.

The meetings were held in private homes until the new log church was constructed near the mound from which it took its name. In 1807 there were 26 members, seven of whom were from the family of the Rev. Peter Smith, a forefather of the late W. W. Keifer. The Rev. Mr. Smith was an early Clark County area itinerant, who lived in many localities and used a pack horse to transport his family and his household effects.

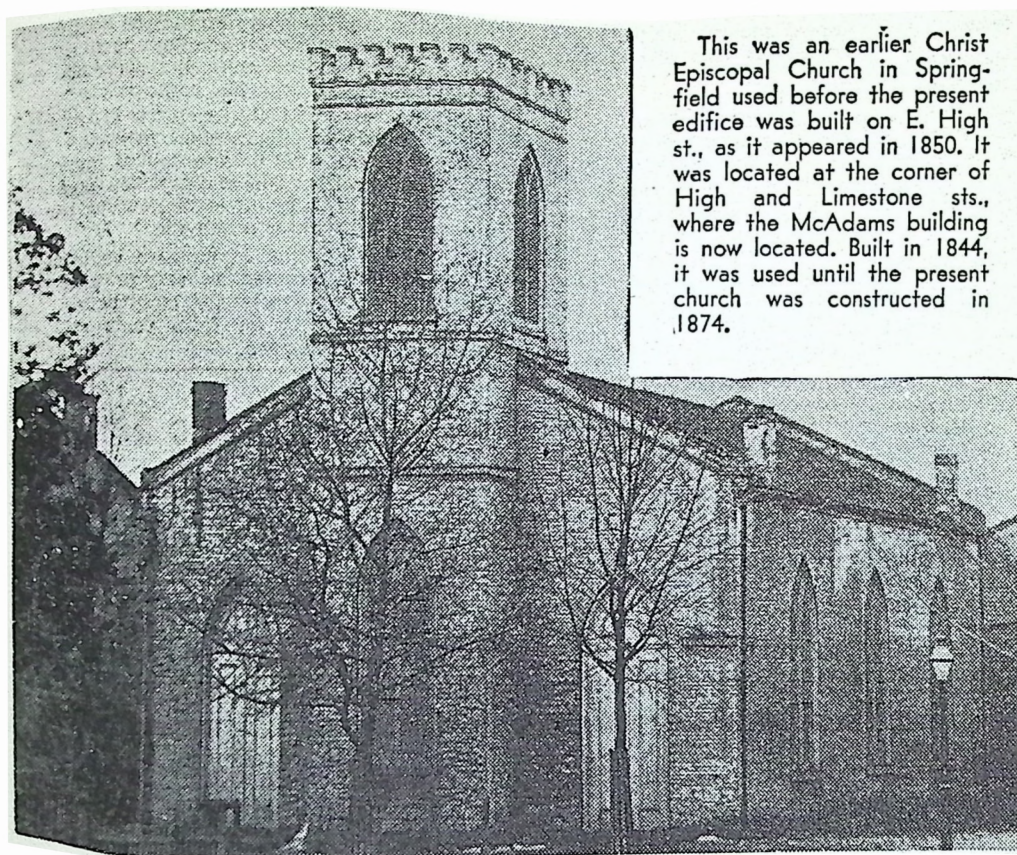
The story goes that he brought twins into the community, carrying them on either side of the horse, with one balancing the other. The family increased until there were 12 children. He was an herb doctor as well as a minister.

His name has gone down to posterity in connection with a

work of *Materia Medica*, the first such publication by any Miami Valley writer. This book was in the homes of pioneers which informed them of how to treat their ills with herbs usually used by Indians.

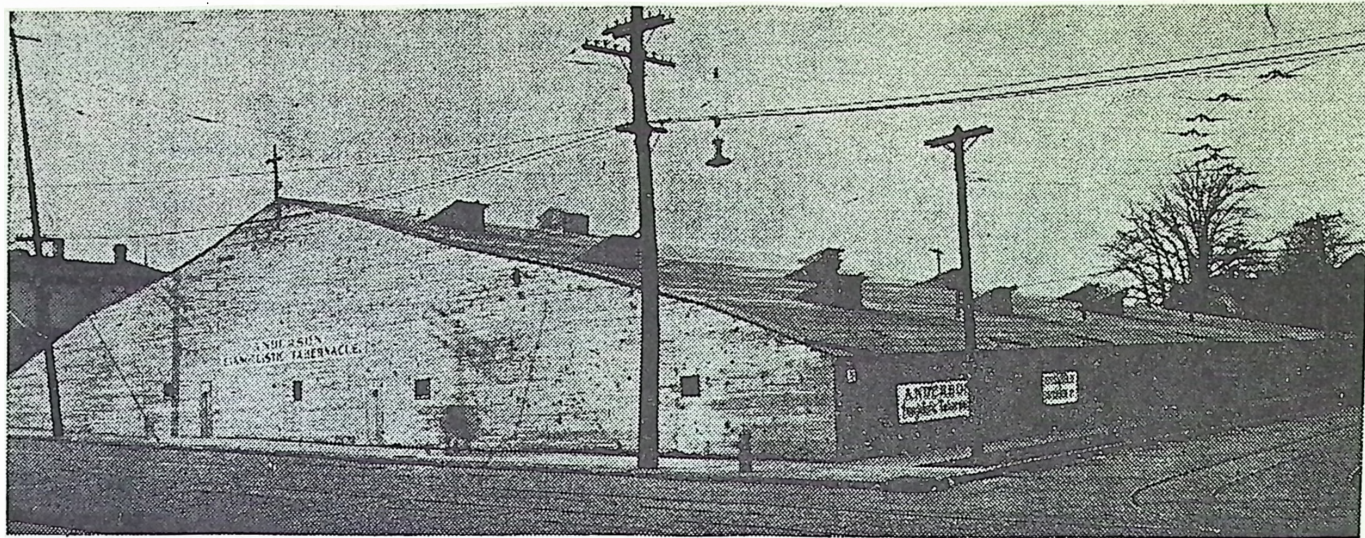
The site of the Knob Prairie Christian Church was on rough, stony ground near a spring along the old Indian trail crossing Mad River at the Broad Ford, a crossing much used before bridges were built across streams.

The logs had rough bark, large at the bottom and graded upward, with the smaller ones at the top. Some were said to have been the thickness of telegraph poles. The puncheon doors were about three inches thick and clapboard was rived about the same thickness. This church was built to protect the worshippers from the Indians.



This was an earlier Christ Episcopal Church in Springfield used before the present edifice was built on E. High st., as it appeared in 1850. It was located at the corner of High and Limestone sts., where the McAdams building is now located. Built in 1844, it was used until the present church was constructed in 1874.

CONT'D



Anderson Evangelistic Tabernacle at the corner of S. Limestone and Pleasant sts., on the site of the Southern Apartments, was the scene of many great religious meetings.

It was here that Billy Sunday, among other notables, preached to huge crowds for several weeks at a time.

The Universalist doctrine was preached in Springfield as early at 1833 by the Rev. M. Fisk in schoolhouses and homes until 1837, when a building campaign was launched and their first church was located on W. Washington st.

The first Lutheran Church was built in Springfield in 1841. It was organized by the Rev. John Lehman with about 40 members. The first communion was observed in 1846, with services being held in the Clark County Courthouse. A lot was secured on W. High st., and the cornerstone was laid in

1845 for the First Lutheran Church.

There were Lutherans in Ohio as early at 1805 and in the 1850's they were in Clark County, first with a church and later Wittenberg College. At an early date, Croft's Lutheran Church was established in Bethel Township. It was built in the corner of a field.

Dr. Ezra Keller preached at the cornerstone-laying of the First Lutheran Church. It was he who founded Wittenberg College. He started the college with little means and with one small church in Springfield to support it.

Christ Episcopal Church was organized in 1834 with 70 members. It was known until 1842 as All Souls Parish. In 1835 a building lot was purchased at the corner of High and Limestone sts. where the church was built in 1844. It served the congregation for 30 years. In 1874, the present edifice was consecrated as a place of worship. The organ in the church was given by Mrs. Asa S. Bushnell, who was a life communicant there.

The associate Reform Presbyterian Church, now designated as United Presbyterian, is marking their sesquicentennial year this year, having been organized and began local activities in 1817.

The Lagonda United Brethren Church was organized by the

Rev. Benjamin B. Wheat in 1843, with a membership of 70, in Newcomer Chapel. In 1870 a church was erected in Lagonda. Dayton remains the Ohio center of the denomination.

The Congregational Church which traces its lineage back to the Pilgrims, held their first Springfield meeting in 1849 and organizing in 1850 at a meeting in the City Hall.

A building lot was given the newly organized church by W. M. Spencer and the new church was dedicated on April 28, 1853.

Authentic records of the beginning of the Catholic Church in Clark County are unavailable. No parish records were kept until the creation of St. Raphael Parish in 1849. The first pastor of this parish was the Rev. Father James Kearney. Ground was purchased in 1848, and the first church of St. Raphael was erected largely through the generosity of Michael P. Cassilly. Prior to that time, Catholics in and around Springfield were ministered to by missionary priests.

The first priest to visit Springfield is believed to have been Rev. Henry Junker of Dayton who celebrated mass in the residence of William Griblenhoffer from 1844 until the church was constructed. The church was remodeled in 1865-66 adding to its length and appointments.

9-24-67 N-S

In Springfield, the Methodists began worshipping in the Pinkered School around 1806. In 1808, the Baptists held services there. The Methodists continued services at the Pinkered log schoolhouse until 1810 when the New Light Christians built a church on the banks of Mill Run. It was a log structure and was opened to all denominations. It was built by popular subscription, and while one man gave the ground it is known that Griffith Foos gave a young horse, valued at \$10, toward hewing the logs and preparing the shingles. It was a community center and the day of the raising, 40 men arrived there before breakfast although they had come a distance of from seven to 10 miles.

The Presbyterians were among those who entered the mission field early. By 1808 they were holding services at intervals in Springfield.

While Peter Smith attended the early church at Enon, he remained a Baptist. He reported from the pulpit in 1809 how he had a vision telling him to "Go tell the world around ye what the Lord has done for thee." He was later called to the pastorate of the Mad River Baptist Church.

While Baptist services continued through the years in Springfield, no church was built. In 1826 the Mad River Baptist Church as an organization had 140 members. They were scattered and meetings were held in the homes of the congregation.

In 1811 Peter Smith, who came to Mad River in 1804, went on a missionary journey into Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey. It was an extensive journey for that day and it is believed that he was the first to go on such a mission.

While the Mad River Baptist Church was in existence, dissension arose over the matters of free will and predestination. There were frequent church trials

for other causes than doctrinal heresy, which brought on its integration and final dissolution. While the church records closed in 1829 the Free Will faction continued to meet and hold regular services until the early 1830's.

As late as 1839 the Ohio Gazetteer and Traveler's Guide says of Springfield: "One Presbyterian Church, one large Methodist meeting house, one Methodist Reform meeting house, and one Seceder meeting house, all of which are well attended," showing that some of the earlier denominations were not yet active. Contemporary accounts showed much the same activity in New Carlisle and South Charleston as in Springfield.

Rhodes, Gatch and Williams were reported to be early ministers in South Charleston and in 1847 Nat Moss, who "wagoned" to Cincinnati, unloaded the first church bell there, presumably the first in Clark County. Early history of the town tells how the bell pealed the messages of joy and sorrow, its tones closely associated with the lives of South Charleston citizens. Time was when the bell tolled and handbills with lines indicating mourning were distributed, both long-forgotten customs. The bell indicated the number of years, while the bills and obituary notices, left at all homes, were funeral invitations.



Among the early churches of Springfield was this one at the corner of Fisher and Columbia sts., which was originally the old St. Johns Church. As shown, it later became the Salvation Army building, before the Army moved to its present location on W. High st.

Peter Smith was Clark County's first missionary. He died in 1816 and lies buried in Donnelsville Cemetery. Isaac Newton Walters, who followed him as a missionary, is said to have traveled preaching the Gospel enough miles to girdle the earth five times. And he did it on horseback.

He crossed the Alleghenies five times on his travels which took him as far as New York and New Jersey. And all this came about after he was 50 years old. In his

statistical information, the Rev. Mr. Walters registered 3,396 conversions and performed 1,052 marriages and officiated at innumerable funerals.

He was a New Light Christian and in 1840 began publishing the Herald of Gospel Liberty in New Carlisle. Publication of this denominational organ was later transferred to Dayton. In 1853, he officiated at the inauguration of Dr. Horace Mann as president of Antioch College. He died in 1856 in Columbus while on his way to New York on another missionary journey.

While the early Baptist Church in Clark County was dissolved in 1829, today there are 31 Baptist Churches in Springfield and Clark County.

9-24-67 N-5

CONT'D

Ohio Was Home Of Mastodon In Prehistoric Times

By HERBERT K. SKINNER
Ohio was the home of the mastodon in prehistoric times. And Clark and Champaign Counties were where these giant American elephants roamed.

This is known to be true because skeletons of the mammoth have been found in former swamps and bogs in Clark County. The huge beasts got caught in the mud and sank, to be trapped for ages until found by plowmen and workers.

The largest complete mastodon skeleton on record is now in the Ohio Historical Society Museum in Columbus. It is the Conway Mastodon, unearthed in 1887 on the N. S. Conway farm south of Catawba. These historical facts are the subject of an article in the monthly issue of "Echoes" of the state society.

The story is brief. Other details of the historic find were told in early Springfield newspapers. A 1910 newspaper told of two other skeletons found in the Clark-Champaign County areas.

Newton S. Conway, back in 1887, was draining a swamp on his farm when workers unearthed a number of large bones. In the continuing search, other bones were found which were gathered together and washed and cleaned.

The skeleton had been found in an upright position—as if it had become trapped in the mud and then sunk out of sight. An area of a half-acre was examined by the workers until they were satisfied that all the bones had been found.

One of the pieces, besides the skull, was a jawbone with three teeth still in place. All the pieces

were shipped to Prof. H. A. Ward at Rochester, N.Y., where missing parts were cast and the entire skeleton then was mounted at a cost of \$800. It was then shipped to Ohio State University and put on display in Orton Hall.

A card was placed at the foot of the display reading "Conway Mastodon, discovered in 1887 in Pleasant Township in Clark County, Ohio. Presented to the Ohio State University by Newton S. Conway, Esquire, 1898.

Where the mastodon bones were found it is believed to have been the bottom of a lake in prehistoric times. The lake is thought to have extended into what is now Cedar Swamp and beyond. This belief is borne out after two other mastodon skeletons were unearthed on the Scott Yeazell farm two miles north of Brighton in

Harmony Township in 1906. Here too, is former swampy ground which at one time must have been part of an extensive lake.

Mr. Yeazell found the bones while plowing. He gathered all the pieces together after extensive digging. He did not attempt to have them mounted but gave the parts to Wittenberg College where at that university it is still on display in the geology department. Mr. Yeazell found the bones of a second mastodon but did not disturb them when no science group seemed interested in the find.

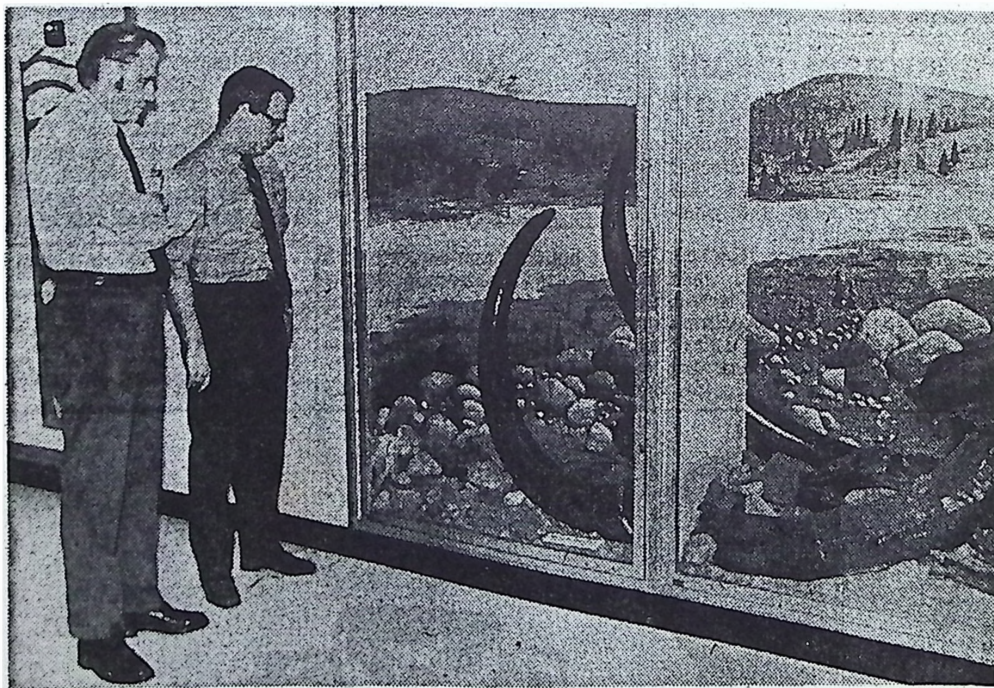
Dr. Floyd Nave of the geology department of Wittenberg University said the Yeazell mastodon bones are still among the prized possessions of the university. *5/6/71 Sun*

They include the lower jaw bone of huge size, and a number of other bones and a tusk. Dr. Nave reported that Terry Chase, a student who graduated in 1970 and is now doing graduate work in geology at another university did a mural depicting a prehistoric landscape and incorporated in it the bones of the Yeazell

mastodon. It is on display in the new science building.

Dr. Nave said it is his opinion that there may be other mastodon skeletons still embedded in the swampy area around Cedar Swamp. He said the water in such an area aids in the preservation of the bone structure where on other types of land the air would cause the remains to quickly disintegrate and disappear.

The Conway mastodon on display in the Ohio Historical Society Museum is claimed by their experts to be the largest complete mastodon skeleton on record. This lends truth to the belief that Clark and Champaign Counties were actually the land of the mastodon.



Dr. Floyd R. Nave (left) of the Geology Department at Wittenberg University and Dr. Harold Sundelius, chairman of the department, stand beside the remains of a giant mastodon, presently on display in the new Science bldg. on campus. The display and mural depicting what Ohio may have looked like following the Ice Age, is the creation of former geology student Terry Chase, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Chase of 4131 Bently rd., now an art instructor at South High School. The mastodon tusk at left was discovered on a farm just south of the Clark County Fairgrounds in 1960.

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